

NEBRASKA

WEATHER & CROPS



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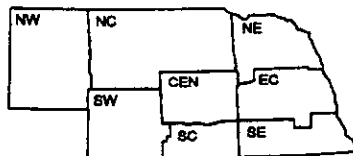
For Week Ending August 23, 1998

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National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged from four to eight degrees above normals for the entire State. Precipitation averaged less than a tenth of an inch in the South Central to over two and a quarter inches in the Northeast.

GENERAL

Hot conditions returned last week, pushing crops closer to maturity and stressing livestock, according to Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Rains of three inches or more fell in portions of North Central and Northeastern Nebraska at mid-week ending irrigation in those areas for the season. However, dryland crops and pastures in other areas declined as soil moisture supplies were drawn down. Producers continued preparing for wheat seeding in the West and South. Old crop grain continued to move to local elevators, although storage was becoming limited in some areas. Other producer activities included hay harvest, livestock care and machinery maintenance.

CROPS

Corn condition rated 1% very poor, 3% poor, 16% fair, 55% good, and 25% excellent. Dryland corn rated 78% in good or excellent condition and 81% of the irrigated corn rated in those categories. Acreage reaching the dough stage stood at 86%, ahead

CROPS (Cont.)

of 81% last year and 68% average. Corn reaching the dent stage was at 41%, also ahead of 18% last year and 21% average. Seed corn harvest was anticipated to begin around Labor Day.

Soybean condition rated 2% poor, 18% fair, 59% good, and 21% excellent. Podding was occurring on nearly all the acreage. Bean leaf beetles continued to be monitored in eastern fields.

Sorghum condition was 1% poor, 17% fair, 61% good, and 21% excellent. Heading had occurred on nearly all the acreage. Sorghum acreage coloring was at 20%, ahead of 11% last year and 15% average.

Dry bean condition rated 1% very poor, 9% poor, 34% fair, 44% good and 12% excellent. Podding had occurred on 84%, behind 97% last year and 95% average. Rust was becoming a concern in Panhandle counties.

Alfalfa condition rated 1% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 61% good and 11% excellent. Third cutting activities moved to 69%, ahead of 47% last year and 49% average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 1% very poor, 7% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, and 9% excellent. Pinkeye continued showing up in Northeastern counties and fly populations continued troublesome in western areas. Feeders were taking placements sooner than normal in some areas as calves were being weaned early in Southwestern areas.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF August 23, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Dough	35	82	86	87	92	69	98	96	86	71	81	68
% Corn Dent	2	35	36	49	52	11	55	62	41	16	18	21
% Soybeans Setting Pods	na	100	98	95	98	85	98	94	97	92	97	88
% Sorghum Headed	na	90	100	100	93	91	98	98	97	91	93	86
% Sorghum Coloring	na	20	2	14	12	15	35	18	20	5	11	15
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	6	76	68	72	85	89	95	93	69	46	47	49
% Dry Beans Podding	89	95	100	42	na	75	na	na	84	43	97	95
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF August 21, 1998												
Days suitable	5.8	6.7	5.3	5.8	6.0	6.3	6.9	6.3	6.1	5.7	5.1	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	1	3	5	0	6	0	0	2	0	10	
(Percent) - Short	13	36	17	15	16	32	32	41	25	20	31	
- Adequate	86	57	77	79	73	57	66	58	69	78	56	
- Surplus	1	6	3	1	11	5	2	1	4	2	3	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	0	3	1	4	0	11	0	0	2	2	14	
(Percent) - Short	15	36	19	23	12	32	26	17	23	17	38	
- Adequate	85	57	78	72	86	55	70	82	73	79	46	
- Surplus	0	4	2	1	2	2	4	1	2	2	2	

n/a = not available.

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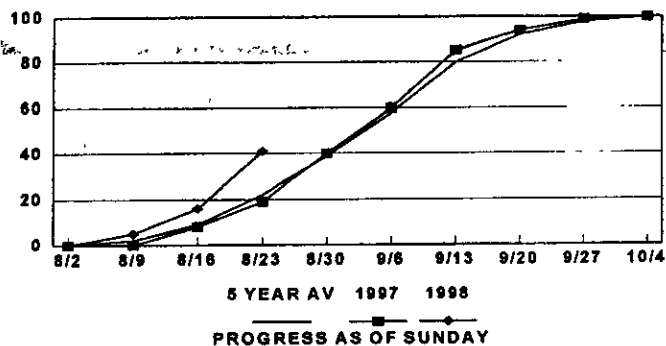
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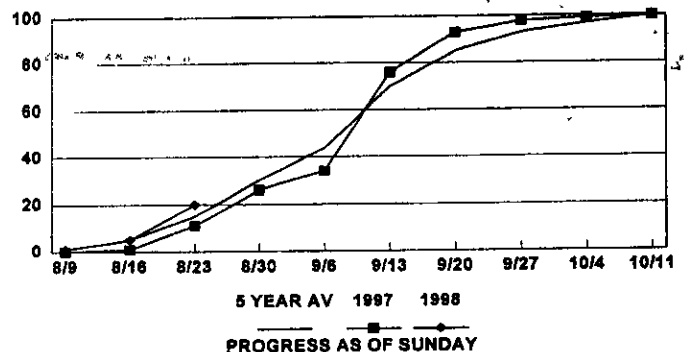
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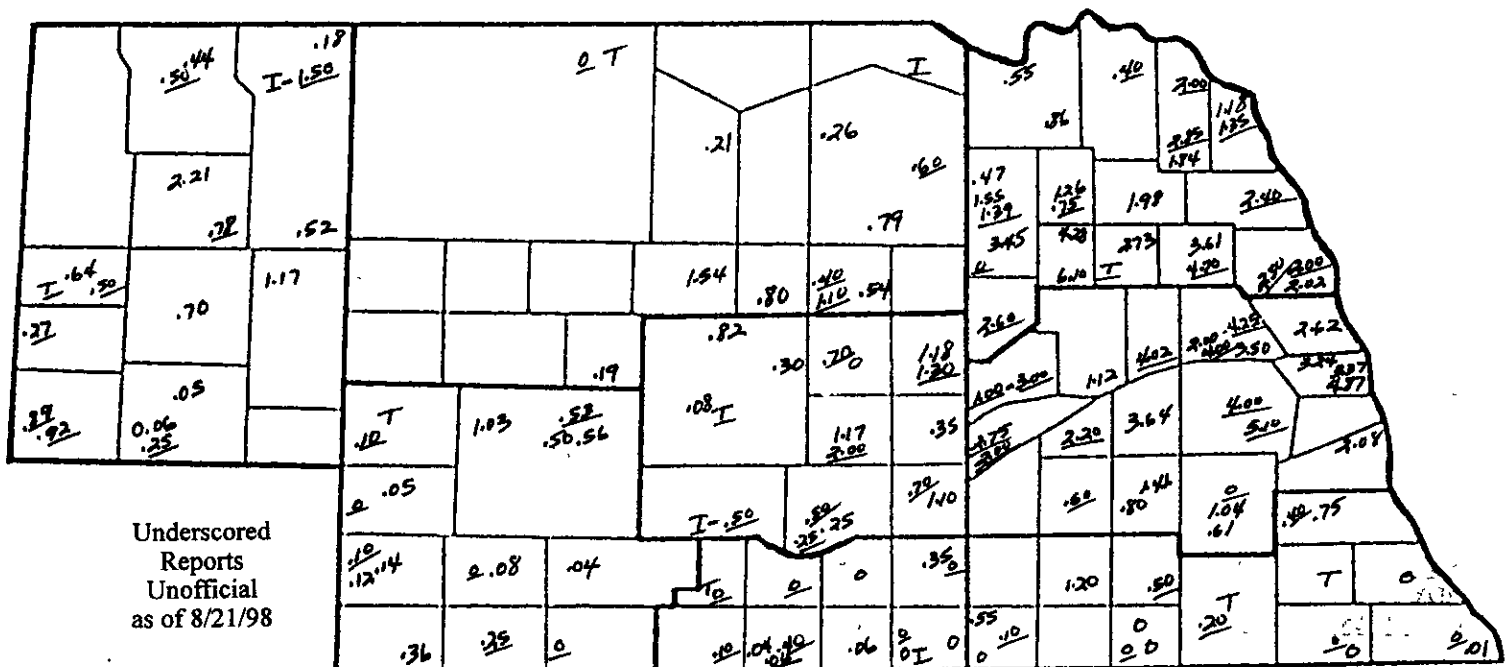


SORGHUM TURNING

% SORGHUM TURNING



PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1998



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 22, 1998

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.60	.54	2.28	.58	2.36	.29	.06	.13
Total since April 1	12.31	18.25	22.75	16.78	24.56	14.15	14.50	16.96
Normal since April 1	11.41	14.00	15.70	15.38	16.88	13.13	15.33	17.27
Total as % of normal	108%	130%	145%	109%	145%	108%	95%	98%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1998

WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1998									
Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Since April 15	
		Max	Min					Current	Normal
NW	Chadron	102	58	79	---	.44	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	98	54	77	+6	.64	156	2038	1997
	Sidney	96	53	76	---	.06	157	1912	2034
NC	Valentine	98	61	79	+7	T	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	169	2016	2183
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	181	2221	2324
NE	Norfolk	94	67	79	+7	4.28	---	---	---
	Sioux City	92	68	79	+6	1.18	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	186	2273	2388
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	183	2256	2374
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	188	2368	2520
CEN	Grand Island	98	65	81	+7	1.10	186	2381	2403
	Ord	95	63	77	---	0	184	2300	2385
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	181	2361	2390
EC	Lincoln	97	69	82	+7	1.04	203	2585	2614
	Omaha	96	67	81	+8	3.37	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	187	2378	2427
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	193	2524	2596
SW	Imperial	95	60	78	---	.14	---	---	---
	North Platte	93	57	76	+4	.50	175	2208	2239
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	141	2325	2281
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	177	2369	2379
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	199	2675	2414
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	193	2467	2614
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	186	2429	2419

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.